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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1947

PALESTINE

FILE NO. 84

pp. 12161 to end

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

CLOSED
UNTIL

1978

61855

760

E

2

1947

PALESTINE

E 12161

23 DEC

Registry Number *E12161/84/31*
 FROM *F. B. Rennie*
 No. *My Transport*
 Dated *T.M. 33072*
 Received in Registry *19 Dec 23 -*

"F. B. Johnson"
 confirms that "F. B. Johnson" has been offered on the London market for insurance (policy to Mediterranean, including Haifa). There is no doubt they received in Colonel Frederick B. Johnson and information appears to include Dennis statement of his intention to sail ship to Holland for refitting etc.

Last Paper.

12140

(Minutes.)

Telegram sent to Washington on E12120/84/12 23/12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61855

(Action completed.)

L. E. M. 23/12

(Index)

[Handwritten marks]

Next Paper:

E 12178

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 Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

Telegrams "TRANSPORTS, TELEX, LONDON."
Telep) ABBEY 7711 EXTN.

Further communication on this
subject should be addressed to:—

The Director of Sea Transport
(address as opposite)

and the following number quoted:—

T.M.33072.



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT,

BERKELEY SQUARE HOUSE,

LONDON, W.1. 3

19th December, 1947.

Your Reference _____

Dear Cable,

"COLONEL FREDERICK C. JOHNSON"

This confirms my telephone advice yesterday that information has been received "DE WITT CLINTON" (3,899 tons gross) - to be re-named "FRED C. JOHNSON", now in Hampton Roads - had been offered on the London Market for insurance (sailing to Mediterranean, including Haifa.) It is my view there is no doubt the ship concerned is "COLONEL FREDERICK C. JOHNSON" and the information therefore appears to debunk the Owners' statement of his intention to sail the ship to Holland for re-fitting etc.

"COLONEL FREDERICK C. JOHNSON" has already been notified to the insurance contacts concerned under the arrangement for denial of insurance to suspect ships. They have now been informed that there is little doubt that "DE WITT CLINTON" offered for insurance is the "COLONEL FREDERICK C. JOHNSON" previously notified to them, and it is hoped satisfactory arrangements will be made to deny insurance accordingly.

I am sending copies of this letter to Evershed, Higham and Scherr.

Yours sincerely,

J. E. Cable, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

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		1		2	

Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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701

E

4

1947

12178

PALESTINE

23 JEC

Registry Number *E12178/84/31*
 FROM *Chamney*
 No. *Washington*
 Dated *84/129/47*
 Received in Registry *17 NCC*
23 -

GLORIA - ATR 83

Ref (E11396/84/71) state sent inform that 'GLORIA' is still at Charleston and they will advise when she leaves. They do not know what has happened to ATR 83.

Last Paper.

12161

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

*8, Scher. M.I.S.
 Dec 29*

(Action completed.)

JEM 30/12

(Index.)

[Signature]
12/29

Next Paper.

12181

(Minutes.)

copy to M.I.S. (Mr. Scher)

24/12

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5
E
BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

17th December 1947

12:18
23 DEC

Ref: 84/159/47

Dear Department,

Please refer to your letter E 11396/84/31 of the 9th December to the Chancery at Lisbon about the GLORIA and the ATR-83.

2. The State Department inform us that the GLORIA is still at Charleston and that they will let us know when she leaves. They did not know what had happened to the ATR-83.

3. We are sending a copy of this letter to Lisbon.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61855

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Class *371*

Piece *61855*

Following document(s) retained in the
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of the Public Records Act, 1958

E12184/84/31

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				2	

Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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365

E

12196

6

10047

PALESTINE

23 DEC

Registry Number

E12196/84/71

TELEGRAM FROM

M. Farrell

No.

Bombardier

Dated

15.5.2.

Received in Registry

23 Dec

23 -

SS 'CORINA'

Re: FO 1418 (E10811/84/71) SS 'Corina' has not sailed, reliable reports state that she will not be employed in illegal immigration traffic.

(Minutes.)

J 24/12

Last Paper.

12184

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9.9. P. ✓ Jan. 1

(Action completed)

J. E. [Signature]

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 12203

30471 F.O.P

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

Cypher/OTP

67
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell
No. 1552

D. 8.35 a.m. 23rd December, 1947.

23rd December, 1947.

R. 9.31 a.m., 23rd December, 1947.

Repeated to : Angora
Athens

12:90

CONFIDENTIAL

23 DEC

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1552 of
December 23rd: repeated to Angora and Athens.

Your telegram No. 1418. *Empire*

S.S. CORINA has not sailed. Reliable reports
state that she will not be employed in illegal immi-
gration traffic.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora and Athens
as my telegrams Nos. 52 and 26 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora and Athens.]

MM



1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2			

Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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E

1947

PALESTINE

12203

24 DEC

Registry
Number

E12203/84/31

FROM

Blankney

No.

Washington

Dated

9165/147

Received
in Registry

18 DEC

24 -

Illegal Immigrant Ships.
Replies Washington letter 9165/147 (E5895/84/21)
no registration of ships under Honduras flag.
No transmits list of ships for which
approval has been given for registration
under Honduras flag.

Last Paper.

L2196

(Minutes.)

copy to M.I.5 (Mr. Lehen)

References.

U.A. DeFina
31/12

[Signature] 24/12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 Deben. M.I.5
Label 29

(Action
completed.)

[Signature]

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

122015

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 Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

18th December 1947

Ref: G165/-/47

24 DEC

Dear Department,

Would you please refer to our letter G165/-/47 of the 30th June about the registration of ships under Honduran flag.

2. We have recently given our approval for the permanent registration under Honduran flag of the following three ships:

(a) LCI(L)-639, 400 grt, owned by the Mortenson Shipping Company of 90 Broad Street, New York. She will be renamed the MARY X and will be used for the carriage of general cargo and fruit between United States ports and the West Indies. A written assurance was received from Harry H. Mortenson (Cdr., U.S. Navy) that the ship would not be used outside the western hemisphere and that we would be notified should there ever be any change of plans in this respect.

(b) The former U.S. Coast Guard Cutter MODAC, owned by Mr. Manuel Vellianitis, of Mobile, Alabama. This ship is 1600 grt and has been converted to a dry cargo carrier for runs between the Gulf of Mexico, the West Indies, and the east and west coasts of South America. H.M. Vice Consul at Mobile received assurances that the vessel will be used exclusively in the western hemisphere and was told that the U.S. Government had been informed that she would not be used in the Mediterranean. The owner also stated

/that

Eastern Department
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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that should the ship be sold, or chartered to another, or be transferred to another flag, both H.M. Vice Consul and the U.S. Government would be informed.

(c) The SS INSCO MERCHANT (ex LST-341), owned by the Intercontinental Shipping Corporation, of 608 Tampa Street, Tampa, Florida. This ship is being converted at Charleston to a cargo carrier for use in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. A written assurance has been received from the company that she will not be used outside the western hemisphere and that we shall be notified and given full information should any change of plan be decided upon by the company in the future. According to H.M. Vice Consul at Tampa, the president of the company is George F. Milliken, a shipping man who is well known in Bermuda. The company owns a number of vessels, none of which, so far as H.M. Vice Consul is aware, have operated outside Gulf, Caribbean and Central American waters.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

ThB

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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367

E

12205

11

1947

PALESTINE

24 DEC

Registry Number E12205/84/71
 FROM
 No. Ankara
 Dated 18/284/47
 Received in Registry 18 Dec 24

"Pan York" and "Pan Crescent"
 R/ps (E/10438/84/71) a possibility of Turks stopping the Pan ships, if Panamanian registry were withdrawn.
 New French news on same

Last Paper.

12203

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Higham. 60
 Robertson 14.1.5
 awarded 1st off.
 Jan. 3.

(Action completed.)

G. L. 4/1

(Index.)

17/1/48

Next Paper.

12207

(Minutes.)

Copies to: C.P. } usual
 M.I.S. } names
 Cabinet Office }

Both the "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York" have now sailed from Bonatanga for unknown destinations and the Panamanians have still not withdrawn registration. It is, therefore, too late to take any action on the suggestion in para. 3, which is, in any case, not in accordance with the Lord Chancellor's ruling on the legal position.

J. R. Cable
 (J.R. Cable)
 14/12

Mr. Evans } a/a
 17/1/48
 6/1

H.B. 30/12

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12

12205
24 DEC

British Embassy,
Ankara.
18th December 1947.

18/284/47

Dear Department,

Your E.10438/84/31 of the 1st December enclosing correspondence between Beith and Higham at the Colonial Office about the possibilities of the Turks stopping the Jewish illegal immigrant ships "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent" if Panamanian registry were withdrawn.

2. We entirely agree with your views that, however justified the Turks might be in stopping ships which are flagless, the practical difficulties in this case are great. The Turks would be most reluctant to attempt a forcible arrest in the face of a probably determined resistance. Even if they did manage to arrest the ships, they would, as you say, be left with the alternatives of maintaining 16,000 Jews or forcing them to return whence they came. His Majesty's Government have themselves had an unfortunate experience in trying to carry out the latter alternative and we can hardly press again a similar experiment to the Turks.

3. We think therefore that it would be much better to say nothing to the Turks, particularly in view of the Secretary of State's decision not to press the Turkish Government further which was reported to them by the Turkish Ambassador in London. But the Naval Attaché points out that an advantage in the withdrawal of registration would be that His Majesty's ships waiting outside the Dardanelles would be entitled to challenge and investigate these ships as soon as they were sighted and could

/therefore....

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON S.W.1.

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Reference:
FO 371 / 61855

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therefore begin operations very much sooner.

4. We enclose two extra copies of this letter in case you wish to circulate it.

Yours ever,
ANKARA CHANCERY.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

E

12207

14

1947

PALESTINE

24 DEC

Registry Number E12207/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Adkins

Dated

4 23

Received in Registry

16 Dec

24 -

Basina

Refer FO to 2197 (E10811/84/21) transmit copy of note verbale no 535 to the R.H.M.F.A. of Dec 16. Asking Greek Govt to do all they can to delay Greek registration to the Basina

Last Paper.

12205

(Minutes.)

copy under p/u to Bingham and to: M.I.5 (Mr. Kelpin)

[Signature] 24/12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 M.I.5 (Kelpin) Dec 29
H. Beckett no 543 Dec 29

(Action completed.)

J.C.M. 30/12

(Index.)

[Signature] 21/1/48

Next Paper.

(3329/2/11)
12223

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

423
46/443/47

Secret

E 15

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Athens
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of S. for F.A.
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British..... Embassy,.....
..... Athens

24 DEC

16th December, 1947

Reference to previous correspondence:

10811/84/81

Telegram No. 2197 of 20th November from F.O.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Note Verbale No. 535 (46/443/47) to the R.H.M.F.A. dated 16th December, 1947	Illegal Jewish immigration. The "Corina"

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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BRITISH EMBASSY,

ATHENS

46/443/47
No. 535

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Royal Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have the honour to refer to the Ministry's Note No.44925 of the 29th October concerning the vessel "Corina".

His Majesty's Embassy agree that the initial voyage of this vessel to Piraeus, for which she has been given permission to wear the Greek flag, appears to be legitimate. In the view of His Majesty's Government, however, the vessel remains strongly suspect after the termination of this voyage and His Majesty's Embassy therefore have the honour to request the Royal Hellenic Government to do everything possible to delay the granting of Greek registration to the "Corina", and to afford her as few other facilities as may be consonant with the regulations in force.

His Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Royal Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurance of their highest consideration.

16th December, 1947

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61855

769

1947

E

E 12225

17

24 DEC

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 12225/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

W. Farrell

No.

Berchman

Dated

1.5.55

Received in Registry

23 DEC

24

New York

After contact W 1546 (E12140/84/21)
New York left Beirut for unknown destination today.
Local reports indicate Bulgaria to be receiving of
embarkation. Perennial reports of large movement
of Jews by road to Georgia in route for Bulgaria
have so far not been confirmed by W. Farrell.

Last Paper.

12207

(Minutes.)

References.

Southern Dept
NDW
30/12

[Signature]
(J.E. CABLE)

24/12

#B 24/12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, I.S.P. (on E11837)
NDW 30

(Action completed.)

[Signature] 21/12

(Index)

[Signature]
12/1/48

Next Paper.

E 12245

30471 F.O.P

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Reference:

EO 371 / 61855

12225
24 DEC

18

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell.
No. 1,555.

D: 5.00 p.m. 23rd December, 1947.

23rd December, 1947.

R: 6.14 p.m. 23rd December, 1947.

Repeated to: Angora,
Sofia,
Jerusalem,
B.M.E.O. Cairo,
Malta (for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean),
Washington.

IMMEDIATE

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1,555 of 23rd December repeated to Angora, Sofia, Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Malta (for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and Washington.

RESTRICTED

My telegram No. 1,546. *E 1210/24/41*

Pan York left Constanza for unknown destination to-day.

- Local reports indicate Bulgaria to be country of embarkation.
- Persistent reports of large movements of Jews by road to Giugiu en route for Bulgaria have so far not been confirmed by me.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora, Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Malta for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 53, 77, 29, 18 and 179 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, B.M.E.O. Cairo and Washington]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

[Copies sent to War Registry, Admiralty for repetition to Malta for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean]

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370

1947

E

E 12245

19

PALESTINE

26 EC

Registry Number E 12245/84/51

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

M. Farrell
Bucharest

15 5 9
25, 2 11
26

Swedish Illegal Immigration
After Bucharest tel 1555 (E12225/84/51) eight
trains are passing into Bulgaria via Giurgiu and
retained with 12,000 illegal immigrants bound
for Bulgaria, which probably varies. It is reported
that number of 1000 or 2000 men recruited
by Soviet authorities. It is reliably informed that 800
illegal immigrants were turned back by Romanian
borderguards.

Last Paper.

12225

References.

(Minutes.)

These two ships are now
through the 'Nardanelles.'

Stable
(S.E. CABLE)
29/12

#B. 29/12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, J.G.P. (on E 11837)
✓ Dec 30

Tel) Washington 15356
Rptd) New York 4408
Sofia 1698
Bucharest 1454

Dec. 27.
5) J.G.P. (on E 12265)
✓ Dec. 30
P.T.O.

(Action completed.)

J. L. 20/12

(Index.)

[Signature]
12/16/48

Next Paper.

E 12251

30471 F.O.P.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61855

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20

Tel.) Sofia 1697

Rptd.) Bucharest 1453

Washington 13355

Dec. 27.

8) G. G. P. (on E 12265)

✓ Dec. 30

85

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

21 E

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

AMENDED DISTRIBUTION (27th December, 1947)

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell,
No. 1559
25th December, 1947.

D. 2.40 p.m. 25th December, 1947.

R. 3.15 p.m. 25th December, 1947.

Repeated to Sofia,
Angora,
Jerusalem,
B.M.E.O. Cairo,
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (Malta),
Washington.

IMMEDIATE
RESTRICTED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1559 of December 25th, repeated to Sofia, Angora, Jerusalem, B.M.E.O. Cairo, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (Malta) and Washington.

My telegram No. 1555.

Eight trains are passing into Bulgaria via Giurgiu and Dobritch with 12,000 illegal immigrants bound for Bulgarian ports probably Varna.

2. It is reported that a number, variously stated to be 1,000 or 2,000 were nominated by Soviet Authorities, and I am reliably informed that 800 prospective immigrants were turned back by Roumanian Siguranta.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora, Jerusalem, Middle East Office Cairo, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (Malta) and Washington as my telegrams Nos. 55, 78, 30, 19 and 180 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, Middle East Office, Cairo, and Washington].

[Copies sent to War Registry Admiralty for retransmission to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean (Malta)].

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem].

QQQ



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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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12245

E

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Sarell.
No. 1559.

D. 2.40 p.m. 25th December, 1947.

R. 3.15 p.m. 25th December, 1947.

25th December, 1947.

Repeated to: Sofia,
Angora,
Jerusalem,
Middle East Office, Cairo,
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean (Malta),
Washington.

IMMEDIATE.
RESTRICTED.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1559 of
December 25th, repeated to Sofia, Angora, Jerusalem,
Middle East Office, Cairo, Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean (Malta) and Washington.

My telegram No. 1555. E 177 30/12

Eight trains are passing into Bulgaria via Giurgiu
and Dobritch with 12,000 illegal immigrants bound for
Bulgarian ports probably Varna.

2. It is reported that a number, variously stated
to be 1,000 or 2,000, were nominated by Soviet Authorities,
and I am reliably informed that 800 prospective immigrants
were turned back by Roumanian Siguranta.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angora, Jerusalem,
Middle East Office, Cairo, Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean (Malta) and Washington as my telegrams
Nos. 55, 78, 30, 19 and 180 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, Middle East Office, Cairo, and
Washington].

[Copies sent to War Registry Admiralty for retransmission
to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean (Malta)].

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for
retransmission to Jerusalem].



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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No;

Draft.

Washington
13356

Telegram Dec. 27th

Repeat
UK Del NY
Jerusalem
Hq 1698
Bucharest
1454.

Gypher

World City

OUT FILE

23

Add Washington No 13356 of 27th Dec
ref^d for infⁿ to NK Del N. York,
& Jerusalem, Sofia, Bucharest.
Despatched 1. 47 P. M. 27

Most immediate

Secret

Bucharest tel. No 1559 [of
Dec 25 : illegal immigration]

You should bring this
information urgently to the
notice of U.S. authorities
& press them to take all
possible action to restrain
Jewish Agency from proceeding
with this ~~proposed~~ ^{operation} attempt at
~~large scale illegal immigration.~~
Whatever view may be held
about proposal in (a) of
Jones Tel. No 7167 [of Dec 23]
it is there is clearly no excuse
for ~~mass~~ ~~imm~~ ~~that~~ mass
illegal immigration now
before

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 / 61855

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been able to
 before we have even begun
 discussions with UN
 Commission. Arrival of
~~these~~ PAN YORK and
 PAN CRESCENT in Middle East
 at this stage would not
 only be a very severe tax
 on our administrative resources
 but would provoke Arabs
 to react even more violently
 than at present. Only ~~advantage~~
~~would be to~~ the Russians ~~who~~
 would gain from the proposed
 operation through greatly increased
 disturbances throughout the M.E.
 & introduction of a large
 number of communist agents.

BARB
 27.12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

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OUT FILE

25

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

No. 13356

27th December, 1947.

D. 1.47 p.m. 27th December, 1947.

Repeated to U.K. Del. New York No. 4408

Jerusalem

Sofia No. 1698

Bucharest No. 1454

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Washington No. 13356 of 27th December
repeated for information to United Kingdom Delegation
New York, Jerusalem, Sofia and Bucharest.

Bucharest telegram No. 1559 [of December 25th.
Illegal immigration].

You should bring this information urgently to the notice of United States authorities and press them to take all possible action to restrain Jewish Agency from proceeding with this operation. Whatever views may be held about proposal in (a) of your telegram No. 7167 [of December 23rd] there is clearly no excuse for mass illegal immigration now before we have even been able to begin discussions with United Nations Commission. Arrival of Pan York and Pan Crescent in Middle East at this stage would not only be a very severe tax on our administrative resources but would provoke Arabs to react even more violently than at present. Only the Russians would gain from the proposed operation through greatly increased disturbances throughout the Middle East and introduction of large numbers of communist agents.

F F F F

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

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Registry No;

OUT FILE

Most immediate

Conf. ~~1-50 p 27/12~~ M.

Despatched

Add Sofia No 1697 27 Dec
ref^d for infⁿ to Bucharest, Washington,
Jerusalem.

Draft.

Sofia 1697.

Telegram. Dec. 27th.

Rep. Bucharest 1453.
13355 Washington
Jerusalem

Bucharest Tel. No 1559

[of Dec 25: illegal immigration]
Provided you see no objection you
should bring ^{report} ~~information~~

in para. 1 urgently to notice
of Bulgarian Govt. and
~~repeat~~ reiterate representations
reported in your tel. No 1312

[of Oct 17]. ~~This attempt~~
illegal.
Attempted large scale immigration

is particularly reprehensible
now that UN have made
their recommendation for
future of Palestine & we are
about to negotiate with
UN Commission on ~~London~~ ^{London}

Gyphen

World Org.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

Handover of authority - to them.

BAB

27.12

27

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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OUT FILE

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]
Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION
FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SOFIA

No.1697

27th December, 1947. D.1.50 p.m. 27th December, 1947.
Repeated to Bucharest No.1453
Washington No.15355
Jerusalem

MOST IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Sofia No.1697 of 27th December, 1947.

Repeated for information to Bucharest, Washington, Jerusalem.

Bucharest telegram No.1559 [of 25th December: illegal immigration].

Provided you see no objection you should bring report in paragraph 1 urgently to notice of Bulgarian Government and reiterate representations reported in your telegram No.1312 [of 17th October].

Attempted large scale illegal immigration is particularly reprehensible now that United Nations have made their recommendations for future of Palestine and we are about to negotiate with United Nations Commission on handover of authority to them.

B B B

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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???

E

F 12265

29

1947

PALESTINE

29 EC

Registry Number

E12265/84/21

TELEGRAM FROM

M. Stindall Beirut

No.

Sofia

Dated

1588

Received in Registry

26 Dec 29 -

"Pan Arab" and Pan Crescent

After Bucharest tel 1546 (E 12140/84/21). Made urgent representations in writing on dec 24 to new Minister Foreign Affairs on lines of letter to his predecessor (Bucharest despatch) 297. Meanwhile in trying to ascertain whether the ships have arrived either at Varna or Bourgas.

Last Paper.

12212

(Minutes.)

None see E 12270

29/12

References.

E 10084/48/Cr

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8 J.P.P. ✓
✓ Dec 30

(Action completed.)

P.A.M. 7/1

(Index.)

12/18/48

Next Paper.

E 12270

30471 F.O.P

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References:

FO 371 / 61855

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E 12265

E

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

29 EC

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennet
No. 1588
26th December, 1947.

D. 11.31 a.m. 27th December, 1947.
R. 12.9 p.m. 27th December, 1947.

Repeated to Angora
Jerusalem
B.M.E.O. Cairo
Malta (for C. in C.)
Bucharest

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1588 of
December 24th repeated to Angora, Jerusalem, British Middle
East Office Cairo, Malta for Commander- in-Chief and
Bucharest.

12140 E

12275/84

Bucharest telegrams Nos. 1546 December 22nd and 1555
December 23rd. Illegal immigration into Palestine.

I made urgent representations in writing on
December 24th to the new Minister for Foreign Affairs on
the lines of my letter of October 17th to his predecessor
(my despatch No. 297). In the meantime I am trying to
ascertain whether the ships have arrived in either Varna
or Bourgas.

E/G

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem, Middle East
Office Cairo and Malta for Commander-in-Chief as my
telegrams Nos. 40, 64 and 8 respectively.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

[Repeated to Cairo and copies sent to Telegraph
Section Colonial Office and War Registry Admiralty for
repetition to Jerusalem and Malta (for Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean) respectively]

F F F F



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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

274

E

E 12270

31

PALESTINE

29

Registry Number E12270/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM M. Merrick - Beirut

No. Sepia

Dated 1592

Received in Registry 27. dec

29 -

"Pan York" and "Pan America"
Refer to file 1588 (E12265/84/21) & reliably informed that "Pan" ship has been at Rougemont since Dec 25 500 immigrants from Marseilles are already embarked and it is stated that a similar number are expected to arrive for embarkation shortly.
Date of sailing not known.

Last Paper.

12265

(Minutes.)

J 29/12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, I.P.P. (see E12265)
dec 30

(Action completed.)

J E M 4/1

(Index.)

17/12/49

Next Paper.

12271

30471 F.O.P

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References: FO 371 / 61855

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

32

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett

No. 1592

27th December, 1947

D. 7.07 p.m. 27th December, 1947

R. 7.48 p.m. 27th December, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem, Angora, Bucharest, C.-in-C. Med.,
B.M.E.O. Cairo, Washington.

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

29 EC

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1592 of
December 27th repeated to Jerusalem, Angora, Bucharest,
Malta for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean, Cairo for
British Middle East Office, Washington.

Your telegram No. 1588.

Illegal immigration.

I have been reliably informed that Pan York and
Pan Crescent have been at Bourgas since December 25th.
800 immigrants from Marseilles are already embarked and
it is stated that a similar number are expected to arrive
for embarkation shortly. Date of sailing is not yet known.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem, C.-in-C.
Mediterranean, Middle East Office Cairo and Washington as
my telegrams Nos. 41, 9, 65, 307 respectively.

[Repeated to Middle East Office Cairo and Washington.
Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office
and War Registry Admiralty for repetition to
Jerusalem and C.-in-C. Mediterranean.
Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

888



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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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275

E

12271 33
29 EC

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E12271/84/11

TELEGRAM FROM

Lord Sowerby
Washington

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

7201
27.1.50
29

Recent Illegal Immigration

Refer # 06/13356 (E12271/84/11) Bulhouse spoke to Roy Henderson, who said he would at once get in touch with Lovett and that Stoll might do everything possible to restrict the Jewish Agency. He was not to be helped in view of his taken by Jewish Agency report - Washington tel 7167

Last Paper.

12270

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

S. J. P. (on E12265)
Dec 30

(Minutes.)

The "Pan American" and "Pan York" are now well into the middle of the program, so that any effort at restraint which may have been made by the Jewish Agency was unsuccessful. These are reports, so far unconfirmed by Palestine, that this operation has brought about a split in the Jewish Agency and caused the resignation of Dr. Moshe Shohat, who was recently in Roumania. Please see also attached Palestine telegram.

Doble
(T.E. CABLE)
29/12

over 21
N.A. Dept
13/1/50

H.B. 30/12

(Action completed.)

J. L. 7/1

(Index)

[Handwritten marks]

Next Paper.

12277

30471 F.O.P

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

E 34

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel

No. 7201

D. 2.53 p.m. 27th December, 1947.

27th December, 1947. R. 8.38 p.m. 27th December, 1947.

Repeated to U.K. Del. New York

Jerusalem

IMMEDIATE

Sofia

SECRET

Bucharest

E 12271

29 DEC

Addressed to Foreign Office No. 7201 of December 27th
repeated to U.K. Del. New York, Jerusalem, Sofia, Bucharest.

Your telegram No. 13356. *E 12245/84/11*

Balfour spoke today to Loy Henderson, who said that he would at once get into touch with Lovett and that the State Department would do everything possible to restrain the Jewish Agency. But he was not too hopeful of success in view of the line taken by the Jewish Agency reported at the end of paragraph 1(c) of my telegram No. 7167. In a supporting letter we are again drawing State Department's attention to the information contained in Bucharest telegram No. 1526.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem, Sofia and Bucharest as my telegrams Nos. 113, 75 and 72 respectively.

[Repeated to Sofia and Bucharest. Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

F F F



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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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INWARD TELEGRAM

INDEXED

Cypher (O.T.P.)

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 28th December, 1947.

R. 28th " " 13.50 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 2516 Secret

Addressed Secretary of State.
Repeated to Washington No. 315 (Please pass to
United Kingdom Delegation as my No. 1901).

Am advised that an Associated Press report in
to-day's press states that PAN YORK and CRESCENT left Bourgas
yesterday for Palestine with total of 15,000 immigrants and
against the wishes of the Jewish Agency. Local agency officials
confirm sailing was not in accordance with their arrangements,
but this statement may, of course, be merely a smoke screen.
Commander in Chief has informed MELF.

Copies sent to :-

- Cabinet Offices - Mr. S.E.V. Luke
- " " - Brigadier Cornwall-Jones
- " " - Commander W. Evershed R.N.
- Ministry of Defence - Mr. A.J. Newling.
- Treasury - Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.
- " - Mr. W. Russell-Edmonds.
- Admiralty - Captain Maunsell.
- " - Mr. P.N.N. Synnott.
- " - Captain D.H. Hall-Thompson.
- War Office - Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
- " - Brigadier J.R.C. Hamilton.
- " (M.O.4..) - Brigadier L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.
- Air Ministry - Lt.Col. M.M. Charteris
- Ministry of Transport - Air Commodore Brook.
- " " - Group Captain V.H.B. Roth.
- Foreign Office - Mr. B.F. Picknett.
- " " - Mr. F.C. Rennie.
- " " - Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.
- " " - Mr. H. Bealey.
- M.I.5. - Mr. J.G.S. Beith.
- No. 10 Downing Street - Mr. J.C. Robertson.
- Lord President - Private Secretary
- Admiralty - Private Secretary
- " - Private Secretary.
- War Office - First Sea Lord.
- " - Private Secretary.
- Air Ministry - C.I.G.S.
- " - Private Secretary.
- Cabinet Offices - C.A.S.
- Foreign Office - Sir N. Brook.
- Ministry of Defence - Private Secretary.
- " " - Private Secretary.
- Commonwealth Relations Office - Sir H. Wilson Smith.
- Ministry of Transport - Private Secretary.
- Foreign Office - Private Secretary.
- " " - Air Commodore K.C. Buss.
- " " - P.S. to Sir Oxen Sargent.
- " " - P.S. to Foreign Secretary.

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

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E12277/84/31

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Reference:

FO

371

61855

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177

E

12278

36

1947

PALESTINE

29 EC

Registry Number

E12278/84/21

FROM

Embassy

No.

Washington

Dated

2736

Received in Registry

19 Dec

29 -

Subj: T. G. Johnson

R/for HV 6/ 13122 (E11837/84/21) transmit copy of Guide abovementioned to the State Dept of 19 Dec & insurance per lat T. G. Johnson

Last Paper.

12277

(Minutes.)

Copies to: M.I. 5 (Mr. Lohm)
M. of T. (Mr. Rennie)

J 19/12

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, Lohm, M.I. 5
Rennie, thy/transport.
✓ Dec. 31

(Action completed.)

98/11/12

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E 12335

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

No. 2736

G165/-/47

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Washington presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Embassy

Washington, D. C.

29

EC

19th December, 1947.

Reference to previous correspondence:
F.O. telegram No. 13122 of the 18th December

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of Aide Memoire to the State Department 19th December.	S.S. COL. F.C. JOHNSON

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO 371 / 61855**

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Ref: G165/-/47

A I D E M E M O I R E

The British Embassy has just received from the Foreign Office some further information concerning the ship named **THE COLONEL F.C. JOHNSON** which, as mentioned in their Aide Memoire to the State Department G165/-/47 of the 13th December, is suspected by the British Government of being intended for the transport of illegal immigrants to Palestine.

2. This information is to the effect that the **COLONEL F.C. JOHNSON** has been offered for insurance on the London market for operation in the Mediterranean, including Haifa. This port would presumably not have been mentioned unless the owners intended to send her there. In view of the point referred to in paragraph 2(g) of the British Embassy's previous Aide Memoire on the subject, and of the fact that the owners have made no mention of their intention to send the ship to Haifa, this new development appears to the British Government to give further cause to suspect that this ship may be intended for the illegal immigration traffic.

**BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.,
19th December 1947.**

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Reference: **EO 371 / 61855**

778

AT

E

12335

39

PALESTINE

29 EG

Registry Number

E 12335/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Attercliffe - Beirut

No.

Refia

Dated

15-96

Received in Registry

28 Nov

29 -

'Pan Amoral' and 'Pan Arab'
Refer to tel 1697 (E12245/84/31) re: Emergency case N.Y.
Attercliffe Foreign Office not available but sent urgent
letter through Sir Sengal Roberts on general lines
of tel under ref. with addition that understood
that two ships were now at Bourgas and that news
from this country was also being sent to small
to total.

Last Paper.

12278

(Minutes.)

Please see also E 12265

References.

Southern Dept. 5/1

J.F. (CABLE)
29/12

H.B. 29/12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

g. I. I. P. (on E12265)
Dec 30

(Action completed.)

J.P. 7/1

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

12336

30471 F.O.P

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REFERENCE: FO 371 / 61855

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12535

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29 EC

Code R

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett
No. 1596

D. 11.30 a.m. 29th December 1947.

28th December 1947.

R. 12.28 p.m. 29th December 1947.

Repeated to Bucharest
Washington
Jerusalem

IMPORTANT
RESTRICTED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1596 of December 28th repeated to Bucharest, Washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 1697. E

Jewish immigration.

Activity evening of December 27th. Minister for Foreign Affairs was not available but through his Personal Adviser I sent him very urgent letter on general lines of your telegram but with the addition that I understand that two ships were now at Bourgas and that Jews from this country were also being sent to swell the total.

Foreign Office please pass to Washington and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 309 and 43 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem].

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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E

E 12365

41

PALESTINE

30 EC

347

Registry Number E12365/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

Kard Kauerbach
Washington

No.

Dated

7211

Received

in Registry

29 Dec

30 -

'Pan broadcast' and Pan report
Re: Rept of 1592 (E12270/84/31) State Dept inform that US Embassy in Panama telegraphed to effect that on receipt of news that 'Pan' ships had left Panama Panamanian official had said that if US Consul at Katoval could confirm they departed, Panamanian Govt would withdraw their registry. This reported to US Consul, Katoval who will reply direct to US Embassy in Panama.

Last Paper.

E12349

References.

(Minutes.)

This is singularly futile. Both ships should by now be well fore afloat.

N.A. DePuy
30/12

J 30/12

(Print.)

Rpt'd eg. 9. (How disposed of.) Jan. 1.

8, 9.9. P. (on E12196) Jan. 1.

Tel, Panama 141

W'yon 13486

Rpt'd angora 1063

beachport 1463

gotachel of 89

supia 718

31 Dec.

8.9.9. P. (on E12196) Jan. 1.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

J. G. W. 10/11

96/7/8/48

Next Paper.

E 12373

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

J 31/12

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

42

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel

No. 7211

29th December, 1947.

D. 9.15 p.m. 29th December, 1947.

R. 2.30 a.m. 30th December, 1947.

Repeated to Malta for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean
(Important)

Angora
Sofia
Jerusalem
Panama (via Foreign Office)

E 12365
30 DEC

IMPORTANT
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 7211 of
December 29th repeated to Malta (for Commander-in-Chief
Mediterranean Important), Angora, Sofia, Jerusalem and
Panama (via Foreign Office).

Sofia telegram No. 1592; Jewish Illegal Immigration.

State Department inform us in confidence that the United States Embassy in Panama telegraphed to them today to the effect that on the receipt of news that Pan Crescent and Pan York had left Bourgas Panamanian official had said that if United States Consul at Istanbul could confirm their departure, Panamanian Government would withdraw their Panamanian registry.

2. The telegram was repeated to the United States Consul at Istanbul who will reply direct to the United States Embassy in Panama.

Foreign Office please pass to Malta, Angora, Sofia and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 2, 49, 76 and 114 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora, Sofia and Panama. Copies sent Admiralty for Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and to Colonial Office for Jerusalem]

F F F F

30 DEC 1947

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 W.P. 26489/157 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry
No. E 12365/84/31

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

Panama 141
Washington 13486

Telegram.

No.

(Date) Dec 21

Repeat to:-

Angora 1063
Istanbul (bons sent) 1463
Sofia 718
C. in C. Med }
Jerusalem }
Cyprus }
E. Chair. }
Code. }
Cypher. }

Distribution:-

Departmental

RECEIVED IN O.S.
- 1 JAN 1948

Copies to:-

I.I.P.

OUT FILE

43

F.O.,

Despatched 6:00 P.M.

Immediate
Confidential

Addressed Panama telegram
no 141: December 31st - and to Washington
and repeated for information to
Angora, Istanbul, Sofia, Bucharest,
C. in C. Med, Jerusalem and
Cyprus.

Washington telegram no. 7211
and Panama telegram no. 120 (not to
all) [of 29th and 30th December]

Jewish illegal immigration.

Panamanian charge d'affaires here
telephoned this afternoon to say
that he had just received a
telegram from his government
/informing

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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informing him that the provisional patents of Panamanian registration granted to the "Pan York" and "Pan Bessent" had expired on the 25th October and 5th November respectively and, in view of H.M.G.'s representations, had not (repeat not) been renewed. These ships are not, therefore, entitled to fly the Panamanian flag and, so far as we know, now possess no nationality.

2. Señor MORALES said that he had no previous knowledge of this decision and was unable to give any explanation of the Panamanian Government's delay in communicating it to us.

3. U.S. Embassy here, whose assistance we had requested in view of Washington telegram no. 7211, have been informed of this new development.

J 31/12

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

45
OUT FILE

Cypher/OTP
E12365/84/51
Confidential

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PANAMA

No. 141

D. 6.10 p.m. 31st December 1947

31st December 1947

and to Washington No. 13486

Repeated to Angera No. 1063
Bucharest No. 1463
Istanbul (Consul General) No. 89
Sofia No. 718

Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean } Immediate
Jerusalem }
Cyprus }

IMMEDIATE
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Panama telegram No. 141 of December 31st
and to Washington and repeated for information to Angera,
Istanbul, Sofia, Bucharest, Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean,
Jerusalem and Cyprus.

Washington telegram No. 7211 and Panama telegram No. 120
(not to all) [of 29th and 30th December].

Jewish illegal immigration.

Panamanian Chargé d'Affaires here telephoned this
afternoon to say that he had just received a telegram from
his Government informing him that the provisional patents of
Panamanian registration granted to the "Pan York" and
"Pan Crescent" had expired on the 25th October and 5th
November respectively and, in view of His Majesty's Government's
representations, had not (repeat not) been renewed. These
ships are not, therefore, entitled to fly the Panamanian flag
and, so far as we know, now possess no nationality.

2. Senor Morales said that he had no previous
knowledge of this decision and was unable to give any
explanation of the Panamanian Government's delay in
communicating it to us.

3. United States Embassy here, whose assistance we had
requested in view of Washington telegram No. 7211, have been
informed of this new development.

ccc

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

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1947

E

E 12373

46.

31 DEC

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 12373/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

M. Almond-Bennett

No.

1602

Dated

1602

Received in Registry

29 DEC

31

"Pan Crescent" and "Pan York"

Refer Sofia tel 15-26 (E12373/84/31) P.M. announcement was first information that ships had sailed. ... Pancrest, via Crescent foreign interests, and made strong personal representations while receiving attitude of H.M.G. ... Make clear a case for strong formal protest in the name of H.M.G. ... not to be taken by Security Council.

Last Paper.

12365

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/9.9.1. (by E12196) Jan. 1

Tel. Sofia 31. Rptd. Beirut 77 w/ Jan 23 Saving uk rel. N.Y. 85

8/9.9.1. Jan. 12

(Action completed.)

3/2

(Index.)

1/2/48

Next Paper.

E 12401

(Minutes.)

I see no harm in a strong formal protest, but I see no point in taking the matter to the Security Council, even if any grounds for such action exist, which I rather doubt. The ships referred to are, of course, the "Pan York" and "Pan Crescent".

Southern Dept. etc.

U.N. (Pol.) Dept.

P.S., we can't just sink them.

Battle (S.E. CABLE)

I agree with Mr. Battle

H.T. Beckley

Protests lose their force in E. Europe if too numerous, but I think this occasion certainly calls for a strong one from H.M.G. We should like to see the draft. J.C. Campbell

Let us keep this out of the Security Council, and just protest - with due publicity.

A. Wilson 2/1/48

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Reference: FO 371 / 61855

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I submit draft accordingly

[Signature]
C.F.R.-CABLE
5/1

47

News Dept aa.

I presume that a protest to the Bulgarian Govt would be news? It never tends to emphasize the fact that ordinary non-communists find it more or less impossible to leave Bulgaria.

[Signature]
6/1

End of.

10/1

We can certainly get some publicity for this when the time comes.

[Signature]
(P. Fenwick) 0/1

JB Feb. 2

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM SOFIA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sterndale Bennett
No. 1602

D. 11.25 a.m. 30th December, 1947.

29th December, 1947.

R. 12.32 p.m. 30th December, 1947.

Repeated to : Bucharest
Washington
Jerusalem
United Kingdom Delegation, New York

E. 12373

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 1602 of December 29th: repeated to Bucharest, Washington, Jerusalem and United Kingdom Delegation, New York.

My telegram No. 1596: illegal Jewish immigration.

My first intimation that ships had sailed was B.B.C. announcement that they had passed through the Bosphorus. I have since received report that they left Bourgas at noon on December 27th and that each ship had some four to five thousand passengers on board.

2. I at once asked to see Minister for Foreign Affairs but as he was indisposed I saw the new Assistant Minister, M. Ganovsky, this evening. I told him that I was shocked to learn that, in face of all my warnings, the Bulgarian Government had allowed this mass illegal immigration to take place. In doing so they had assumed a very heavy responsibility; I must make an immediate oral protest while entirely reserving my Government's attitude. But the question was not merely one between my Government and the Bulgarian Government. It was an international question in regard to which all Governments had an international responsibility. The United Nations had now taken a decision regarding the future of Palestine and it was a particularly critical moment while the operation of the decision was being worked out. I drew attention to the resolution passed by the Assembly of the United Nations on November 17th about illegal immigration. While it was true that that resolution was addressed to Member States, I had hoped that the Bulgarian Government would act in accordance with it, particularly in view of certain passages in their recently signed treaty of mutual assistance with Yugoslavia. In that treaty Bulgaria undertook to conduct herself in conformity with the spirit of the United Nations

Charter

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Charter, and Article 7 of the Treaty said that the Bulgarians would support any initiative designed to ensure peace and security in the world. That surely implied an obligation not to support any initiative likely to compromise peace and security. I repeated that I thought that the Bulgarian Government, in letting these people into Bulgaria from Roumania and in allowing them and persons from Bulgaria to embark in ships engaged in this scandalous traffic, had taken a very serious step which would enormously complicate the position in Palestine.

3. The Assistant Minister, who evidently felt that this was a case for a soft answer, said that he was unfortunately not familiar with the facts or with what had taken place previously between myself and M. Kimon Georgiev and M. Kolarov; it was certainly the aim of the Bulgarian Government to conduct its policy in the spirit of the United Nations and he would investigate the facts at once.

4. I made it clear once more that I was expressing my immediate personal reaction and that I entirely reserved the attitude of His Majesty's Government.

5. It seems to me that this is a case where I should be instructed to make a strong formal protest in the name of His Majesty's Government apart from any possible action by Security Council.

Foreign Office please pass Washington, Jerusalem and United Kingdom Delegation, New York, as my telegrams Nos. 311, 44 and 17 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington and United Kingdom Delegation, New York.
Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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Registry
No. E12373/84/31

J.R.C.

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential.
Restricted
Open

OUT FILE 50

CYPHER

F.O. 104

Despatched 225 / M. 1

RECEIVED IN G.O.
Draft. = 9 JAN 1948

Sofia

Telegram.
No. 31

(Date) Jan 8

Repeat to:-
Bucharest 7 SAV
Washington 23 SAVING
Jerusalem 5
U.K. Del. U.N. 8. SAV

In Clair.
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution:-
Diplomatic
SOUTHERN DEPT first
H.H. Gable

Copies to:- I.I.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

349 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Confidential

Addressed Sofia telegram no 31, -
January 8th - ~~not~~ repeated for
information saving to Bucharest,
Washington, U.K. Delegation to
the ~~and~~ New York and Jerusalem.

Your telegram no. 1602
[of 29th December: Jewish illegal
immigration]

I approve your language
and agree that you should
make a strong formal protest.
I do not ~~however~~ consider this
an appropriate matter for the
Security

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Security Council; but if
you will report the terms of
your protest it may be possible
to obtain some publicity for it
here.

LS/
8/1

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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E 12373/84/31 **OUT FILE** DIPLOMATIC
Confidential

52

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO SOFIA

No. 31 D. 2.25 p.m. 8th January, 1948

8th January, 1948

Repeated to Bucharest No. 7 Saving,
Washington No. 23 Saving,
Jerusalem

United Kingdom Delegation New York No. 8 Saving

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed Sofia telegram No. 31 January 8th repeated
for information Saving to Bucharest, Washington, United
Kingdom Delegation New York and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 1602 [of 29th December: Jewish
illegal immigration].

I approve your language and agree that you should make
a strong formal protest.

2. I do not consider this an appropriate matter for
the Security Council; but if you will report the terms of
your protest it may be possible to obtain some publicity
for it here.

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Reference:
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E 12481

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1947

PALESTINE

31 DEC

Registry Number E12401/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

141 Greenway

Panama

120

30 Dec

31

Illegal Immigrant Ships.

Refer to despatch 129 (E10759/84/11) Had prepared two strong notes to take to Mr. Foreign Affairs but a cabinet crisis has suddenly arisen and bases speculation and it is unlikely that contact can be made with Mr. Minister whoever he may be for some days. Has sent note by hand to Minister.

Last Paper.

12373

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8, P.P. ✓
Jan. 2.

(Action completed.)

LP 10/1

(Index.)

12/1

Next Paper.

12403

(Minutes.)

Señor Morales, the Panamanian chargé d'affaires, rang me up this afternoon to say that he had just received a telegram from his Govt. informing him that Panamanian registration had been withdrawn from the "Pan York" and "Pan Present". It appears that their provisional patents of registration expired on the 25th October and 5th November respectively and that, in view of our representations, the Panamanian Govt. have decided not to renew them. This would appear to be the result of Señor Morales' efforts (see E10490), but he was unable to explain why the Panamanian Govt. had waited till the last moment before taking this notifying us of their decision.

It is not, perhaps, altogether surprising that Mr. Greenway should know nothing

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nothing of this development, since the
Panamanians Gov. have yet to reply
to his original note regarding the
withdrawing of registration. It is, however,
remarkable that the U.S. Ambassador
should have been misled (see E 12365)

Telegram sent to Washington,
Panama, c. in c. Mad, Jerusalem, Cyprus
etc. SEE E 12365/84/31

[Signature]
31/12

N.A. DeP...
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712401

E 55

Code R

FILES

REC

FROM PANAMA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Greenway

No. 120

30th December, 1947.

D.4. 0 p.m. 30th December, 1947.

R.9.46 p.m. 30th December, 1947.

IMPORTANT

Your despatch No. 129 received December 29th.
Panamanian registration.

I had prepared two strong notes to take to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today but a Cabinet crisis has suddenly arisen over bases question and it is unlikely that I can see the new Minister whoever he may be for some days. Meanwhile I have sent notes by hand to the Minister.

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E 12403

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1947

PALESTINE

31 DEC

Registry Number E12403/84/31

FROM 40 Minute

No. W' Cable

Dated 23 Dec

Received in Registry 31 -

Communist Policy towards Jewish Illegal Immigration
Discusses Soviet Participation in Jewish Illegal Immigration Traffic, and question of passing on available information to Marshall and General Mikoyan.

Last Paper.

12401

(Minutes.)

References.

B.U. 15/1

Attach out tel. see (E18994/84/31)

JB Jan 20

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

de Gamba/

(Index.)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

E 2/2/31/1948

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61855

57
E
12403

Communist Policy Towards Jewish
Illegal Immigration. 31 DEC

E.11460 Flag A.
86

E.11791 Flag B.
84

E.11994 Flag C.
84

The Report from His Majesty's Representative in Bucharest, that the U.S. Legation there had been given all available evidence of Soviet participation in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic, prompted His Majesty's Embassy in Washington to ask for particulars, so that they might pass this information to the State Department. Bucharest have replied with the summary contained in their telegram No.1526, and the Secretary of State has given instructions for this to be communicated personally to Mr. Marshall and General Hildring.

E.10584 Flag D.
86

Flag E. Flag F.
and E.11835 Flag
G.

2. Washington Embassy will presumably already have passed on this information to the State Department. When approaching Mr. Marshall and General Hildring in person, however, I think we should give them a more complete and balanced picture of the situation. M. I. 5 are now preparing a comprehensive survey of information from confidential sources and we, for our part, should endeavour to take into account Mr. Kendall's interesting report on the relations between the Zionists and the Roumanian Communist Party (copies of which have already gone to the State Department and the U.S. Embassy in London), and the latest shift in Communist policy indicated in Bucharest telegrams Nos. 1382, 1502 and 1507. The true significance of this apparent reversion to the original Communist line of discouraging Jewish illegal immigration, a change also reflected in recent reports of the closing to Jewish refugees of the Polish, Hungarian and Roumanian frontiers, will be easier to assess when we know the destination of the two illegal immigrant ships "Pan Crescent" and "Pan York". The first of these, having waited at Constanza for over 2½ months, sailed in ballast yesterday, and the "Pan York" is expected to follow her today. If these ships are bound for a Bulgarian port and intend to embark Jews there, as did the "Northlands" and "Paducah", we shall know that the changed attitude of the Roumanian Government is of purely local significance. If, on the other hand, they leave the Black Sea empty and are forced to try their luck in Italy or some other non-Communist country, we shall have to revise our ideas about the Communist policy towards Jewish illegal immigration.

3. I suggest, therefore, that we should wait until after Christmas before approaching Mr. Marshall and General Hildring. As there is nothing the U.S. Government can do to prevent these ships from embarking Jews in a Black Sea port, we shall lose nothing by this delay.



(J. E. Cable)
23rd December, 1947.

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END

RECEIVED IN C.B.
31 DEC 1947
SENT TO DEPT.
31 DEC 1947

I agree with Mr. Sable.

H.B. C. 23/12

Nevertheless I think it will do no harm to make sure that this report reaches the top.

Draft. C.T.

J.A.S. S. 23.12

MS

Dec 23

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FO 371 / 61855

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